

# West Australian Railscene e-Mag

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NJ1602 & P2516 run 5364 wheat train through Kewdale on January 14th with rare working of NJ class on a wheat train the new Daddow Road Bridge is in background. Photo Jim Bisdee

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The first reported instance of three AC4300 running Portman Iron Ore train occurred on January 5th when Q class on 3414 empty iron ore train was replaced with AC4300 at West Kalgoorlie. Ran as AC4305, AC4304 and AC4301 to Koolyanobbing to load then ran as AC4305, AC4304 & AC4301 on 3417 loaded ore train to Esperance to unload. While on January 12th 3413 loaded ore train ran usual 126 ore cars hauled by AC4301, AC4305 & AC4306 from mines at Koolyanobbing to port of Esperance to unload.

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Following DP trials and tuition in late 2009 another DP trial took place on January 12th when 3414 empty ore train out of Esperance was assembled into 157 wagon giant the largest iron ore train ever run by ARG. It was Q4017, Q4014 53 ore cars, Q4016 with Q4008 [offline in case of failure] 51 ore cars, Q4001 further 53 ore cars. 3414 empty was bit less than 1800 metres in length being around 14,500 tonnes loaded as against 126 ore car train that is about 1400 metres long and around 11,400 tonnes when loaded. Regular DP working will be 2 x Q class 53 ore cars, 1 x Q class 53 ore cars and 1 x Q class 53 ore cars for 159 cars in total.





AC4306 first AC class to run on 5474 Koolyanobbing salt train that is nearly always hauled by L class locomotives runs down east leg of Woodbridge triangle on December 31st 2009. Photo Jim Bisdee



AC4304 runs 2056 wheat train down the Woodbridge triangle east leg on January 12th originally it was believed these AC locomotives would not run wheat trains till second order was delivered. Photo Jim Bisdee



AC 4300 locomotives are often leading daily 025/426 Kalgoorlie freight train, running 029/430 sulphur train to Malcolm on Leonora line and have recently run 474 Koolyanobbing salt train and ran 056 wheat train for a few days in mid January.

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DAZ1902 that was nearly always running the now cancelled quartz train has since services resumed on January 4th run Bauxite Recourses twice daily bauxite train Monday to Saturday from Forrestfield to Mooliabeenee then onto Kwinana to unload at night.

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8039 ran 6P25 from Kewdale to old workshops Midland on January 8th to collect three gondola wagons containing standard gauge transfer bogies for return to Acacia Ridge Qld to await EMU set #89.

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Q4002 lead locomotive on 6414 empty iron ore train about to departed Esperance at 1125 on Christmas Day for the mines at Koolyanobbing with a bit of tinsel on the front and side handrails. Photo Wayne Andrews

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South Spur Rail have been running standard gauge ballast trains dropping ballast at various places on both mains in the Avon Valley between Jumperkine and Avon Yard over the last few days. D48 hauled most of the runs on January 12th through 16th while D51 ran the ballast train on 17th.

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